THE BOOK OF
ROMANS
A VERSE-BY-VERSE STUDY

Romans: Chapters I – XVI Overview

Chapter I: The world knows of God

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. (Romans 1:19, 20)

Chapter II: God will judge all unrighteousness

Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things. (Romans 2:1, 2)

Chapter III: No one is justified in God's sight

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. (Romans 3:19, 20)

Chapter IV: Abraham was justified by Faith

For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." (Romans 4: 2, 4)

Chapter V: We have peace with God

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 5:1, 2)

Chapter VI: Shall we continue in sin?

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! (Romans 6:1, 2)

Chapter VII: We are dead to the law

Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, (Romans 7:4)

Chapter VIII: We are more than conquerors

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:37-39)

Romans: Chapters I – XVI Overview

Chapter IX: Why did Israel rejected Christ?

Not all the Jews are people God chose for Himself. Not all of Abraham's family are children of God. (Romans 9:6-7)

Chapter X: Gospel to the Gentiles for a time

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" (Romans 10: 14-15)

Chapter XI: Israel will one day receive

I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, and in this way all Israel will be saved. (Romans 11:25-26)

Chapter XII: Be a Living Sacrifice

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:1-2)

Chapter XIII: Christian Character

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. (Romans 13:14)

Chapter XIV: Our Liberty in Christ

Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother. (Romans 14:13)

Chapter XV: Bear one another's burden

We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. (Romans 15:1-2)

Chapter XVI: Beware of Division

I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.

Romans: Chapter 1

The first of 433 verses in the book of Romans and we intend to parse each one.

1:1 ***Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,***

1:1a ***Paul,***

Who was Paul?
A legitimate smarty pants
He was born as Saul, a Roman citizen
He was a Pharisee, the strictest sect.
Tribe of Benjamin
He persecuted Christians - held the coats while Stephen was stoned
He was on his way to Damascus with letters from authorities to persecute Christians when this happened …

Saul's Conversion:
Acts 9*:1Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord's followers. So he went to the high priest.** Probably Caiaphas * *2He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains.*
3As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him. 4He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul! Saul! ***Why are you persecuting me?"***
* When he persecuted believers, Jesus took it personally and … still does today.
5"Who are you, lord?" Saul asked.
And the voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting! 6Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."
7The men with Saul stood speechless, for they heard the sound of someone's voice but saw no one! 8Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind. So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus. ***9He remained there blind for three days and did not eat or drink.***
* I can tell you one thing – Paul knew the Bible, I can imagine him running through the OT – Oh, Psalms 22 , this is about Jesus ,,, Wow, Isaiah 53, this is all about Jesus.

1:1b ***a servant of Christ Jesus,***

What kind of servant – Paul also says in Romans 8:16 that he is a joint heir with Christ. So the question, can a slave, a servant, or even a bond servant also be an heir?

Romans: Chapter 1

Gen 15:1Some time later, the LORD spoke to Abram in a vision and said to him, "Do not be afraid, Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward will be great."
*2But Abram replied, "O Sovereign LORD, what good are all your blessings when I don't even have a son? Since you've given me no children**, Eliezer of Damascus**, a servant in my household, will inherit all my wealth. 3You have given me no descendants of my own, so one of my servants will be my heir."*
4Then the LORD said to him, "No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own who will be your heir." 5Then the LORD took Abram outside and said to him, "Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That's how many descendants you will have!"
6And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith.

The Greek word is **Doulos** – bond servant – but more than just a slave. It may indicate a trusted servant that can act on behalf of his master. There is a great example in Genesis….

- I find it interesting that Saul – near Damascus – is the same place Abraham's servant was from.
- EL – God AZAR – Helper -- as in Eve was Adams AZAR

But let's continue reading in Genesis 24 about what kind of servant Eliezar was …

Wife for Isaac
*1Abraham was now a very old man, and the LORD had blessed him in every way. 2One day Abraham said to **his oldest servant, the man in charge of his household,** "Take an oath by putting your hand under my thigh. 3Swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and earth, that you will not allow my son to marry one of these local Canaanite women. 4Go instead to my homeland, to my relatives, and find a wife there for my son Isaac."*

He finds Rebecca and the family wants to delay her acceptance of Isaac, but Eliezar is persistent … so …

Well," they said, "we'll call Rebekah and ask her what she thinks." 58So they called Rebekah. "Are you willing to go with this man?" they asked her.
And she replied, "Yes, I will go."

* Behold, now is the time, now is the day of salvation.

Most scholars recognize this foreshadowing in which Abraham as God the Father – Isaac the Son, and Rebekah, the bride of Christ – the church. And Eliezar as the Holy Spirit. But let's just consider this servant as one who leads the future bride to the Son – exactly like Paul who, by the way was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Romans: Chapter 1

A Current day example of Doula (f. of Doulos)

Today a doula is a helper for a woman about to give birth (a birth Doula) or ones that serves a few weeks after the birth (a post-partum Doula) – to serve the new mother so she does not have to manage her normal household duties as well. This would certainly be someone most trusted. There is on women I found in NT that was a doula – listen to Mary Song in Luke, Chapter 1:

46Mary responded, "Oh, how my soul praises the Lord.
47How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!
48For he took notice of his lowly servant (gk. Doula) *girl,*
and from now on all generations will call me blessed.
49For the Mighty One is holy,
and he has done great things for me.

aka Bond Servant Doulos - OT example – I love my Master

Ex 21:5But the slave may declare, 'I love my master, my wife, and my children. I don't want to go free.' 6If he does this, his master must present him before God. Then his master must take him to the door or doorpost and publicly pierce his ear with an awl. After that, the slave will serve his master for life.

So when Paul refers to himself as a slave or bond servant to Jesus – He has a clear meaning that his task is to serve as a trusted ambassador and joint heir to the King of Kings and bring the future bride to the Messiah.

1:1c ***called to be an apostle,***
Apostle – simply means one that is sent out. But for Paul and the other 11 apostles disciples, it carried a deeper meaning. All had seen the risen LORD. They all carried apostolic authority which the early church recognized. Some may be called to be apostles today – but not in the same sense as Paul

What is our calling? There are 14 ministries listed in the Bible.
http://www.GiftsTest.com
- a fun and possibly insightful activity.
When I take the test – mine comes out as "teacher"

Romans: Chapter 1

1:1d ***set apart for the gospel of God,***

1:2 ***which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures,***

Apologetics Proof of Jesus' coming foretold in OT.

Jesus used OT as Proof in John 5
31 *"If I were to testify on my own behalf, my testimony would not be valid.* 32 *But someone else is also testifying about me, and I assure you that everything he says about me is true.* 33 *In fact, you sent investigators to listen to John the Baptist, and his testimony about me was true.* 34 *Of course, I have no need of human witnesses, but I say these things so you might be saved.* 35 *John was like a burning and shining lamp, and you were excited for a while about his message.* 36 *But I have a greater witness than John—my teachings and my miracles. The Father gave me these works to accomplish, and they prove that he sent me.* 37 *And the Father who sent me has testified about me himself. You have never heard his voice or seen him face to face,* 38 *and you do not have his message in your hearts, because you do not believe me—the one he sent to you.*
39 *"You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!* 40 *Yet you refuse to come to me to receive this life.*
41 *"Your approval means nothing to me,* 42 *because I know you don't have God's love within you.* 43 *For I have come to you in my Father's name, and you have rejected me. Yet if others come in their own name, you gladly welcome them.* 44 *No wonder you can't believe! For you gladly honor each other, but you don't care about the honor that comes from the one who alone is God.*
45 *"Yet it isn't I who will accuse you before the Father. Moses will accuse you! Yes, Moses, in whom you put your hopes.* 46 *If you really believed Moses, you would believe me, because he wrote about me.* 47 *But since you don't believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?"*

2.1.1Mohammed not foretold

2.1.2 Joseph Smith not foretold
2.1.2.1 Joseph in Genesis 50
27 Thus saith the Lord God of my fathers unto me, A choice seer will I raise up out of the fruit of thy loins, and he shall be esteemed highly among the fruit of thy loins; and unto him will I give commandment that he shall do a work for the fruit of thy loins, his brethren.
28 And he shall bring them to the knowledge of the covenants which I have made with thy fathers; and he shall do whatsoever work I shall command him.
29 And I will make him great in mine eyes, for he shall do my work; 30 And again, a seer will I raise up out of the fruit of thy loins, and unto him will I give power to bring forth my word unto the seed of thy loins; and not to the bringing forth of my word only, saith the Lord, but to the convincing them of my word, which shall have already gone forth among them in the last days; ...
31 Wherefore the fruit of thy loins shall write, and the fruit of the loins of Judah shall write; and that which shall be written by the fruit of thy loins, and also that which shall be written by the fruit of the loins of Judah, shall grow together unto the confounding of false doctrines, and laying down of contentions, and establishing peace among the fruit of thy loins, and bringing them to a knowledge of their fathers in the latter days; and also to the knowledge of my covenants, saith the Lord.
32 And out of weakness shall he be made strong, in that day when my work shall go forth among all my people, which shall restore them, who are of the house of Israel, in the last days.
33 And that seer will I bless, and they that seek to destroy him shall be confounded; for this promise I give unto you; for I will remember you from generation to generation; and his name shall be called Joseph, and it shall be after the name of his father; and he shall be like unto you; for the thing which the Lord shall bring forth by his hand shall bring my people unto salvation.

Looks good until you turn in your Bible and see that Joseph simply wrote himself into the Bible!

2.1.2.2 Ezekiel – 2 sticks. LDS says the 2 sticks are the Bible and book of morman. A an explanation of the prophesy clearly tells us it is the northern and southern kingdoms of Israel.

2.1.2.3 Isaiah 29:20-22 - the Joseph Smith Translation is not even close to any valid translation:
JST *Wherefore it shall come to pass that the Lord God will deliver again the book and the words thereof to the man that is not learned. And the man that is not learned shall say "I am not learned". Then shall the Lord God say unto him, "the learned shall not read them and have rejected them.*

NLT 20The scoffer will be gone, the arrogant will disappear, and those who plot evil will be killed.
21Those who convict the innocent by their false testimony will disappear.
A similar fate awaits those who use trickery to pervert justice and who tell lies to destroy the innocent.

Romans: Chapter 1

1:3 ***concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh***

Nathan and David – the Davidic Covenant – 1st Chronicles 17
1When David was settled in his palace, he summoned Nathan the prophet. "Look," David said, "I am living in a beautiful cedar palace,a but the Ark of the LORD's Covenant is out there under a tent!"
2Nathan replied to David, "Do whatever you have in mind, for God is with you."

But God reveals to Nathan that David will not build a house for the LORD but that the LORD will build a house (a kingdom dynasty for him.

10 "'Furthermore, I declare that the LORD will build a house for you—a dynasty of kings! 11For when you die and join your ancestors, I will raise up one of your descendants, one of your sons, and I will make his kingdom strong. 12He is the one who will build a house—a temple—for me. And I will secure his throne forever. 13I will be his father, and he will be my son. I will never take my favor from him as I took it from the one who ruled before you. 14I will confirm him as king over my house and my kingdom for all time, and his throne will be secure forever.'"

Unto you a child shall be born: Isaiah 9:6
For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counseller, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
7Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David,

So EVERY Jew in the world would be expected the Messiah, the Christ, to come from the lineage of David. Paul makes this very clear. As does Matthew.

1:4 ***and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,***

A L I V E – historical proof - every Christian should know this !

5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of His name among all the nations,

The main purpose in sharing the Gospel is NOT to bring salvation to others – but the main purpose is to bring **glory to His Name**

6including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

7To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

8First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being proclaimed all over the world.

9God, whom I serve with my spirit in preaching the gospel of His Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you

10in my prayers at all times, asking that now at last by God's will I may succeed in coming to you.

11For I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you,

12that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith.

13I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, how often I planned to come to you (but have been prevented from visiting until now), in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.

14I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish.

15 That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome.

Paul is a debtor – he has a debt or obligation to share the Good News

Ben-Hadad Besieges Samaria

2Kings 6:24Some time later, however, King Ben-hadad of Aram mustered his entire army and besieged Samaria. 25As a result, there was a great famine in the city. The siege lasted so long that a donkey's head sold for eighty pieces of silver, and a cup of dove's dung sold for five pieces of silver.
26One day as the king of Israel was walking along the wall of the city, a woman called to him, "Please help me, my lord the king!"
27He answered, "If the LORD doesn't help you, what can I do? I have neither food from the threshing floor nor wine from the press to give you." 28But then the king asked, "What is the matter?"
She replied, "This woman said to me: 'Come on, let's eat your son today, then we will eat my son tomorrow.' 29So we cooked my son and ate him.

They were desperate, feeling abandoned, no hope, no belief, no relief
How could it get worse, -- well it does ..

2Kings7:3
3Now there were four men with leprosy sitting at the entrance of the city gates. "Why should we sit here waiting to die?" they asked each other. 4"We will starve if we stay here, but with the famine in the city, we will starve if we go back there. So we might as well go out and surrender to the Aramean army. If they let us live, so much the better. But if they kill us, we would have died anyway."
5So at twilight they set out for the camp of the Arameans. But when they came to the edge of the camp, no one was there! 6For the Lord had caused the Aramean army to hear the clatter of speeding chariots and the galloping of horses and the sounds of a great army approaching. "The king of Israel has hired the Hittites and Egyptians to attack us!" they cried to one another. 7So they panicked and ran into the night, abandoning their tents, horses, donkeys, and everything else, as they fled for their lives.
8When the men with leprosy arrived at the edge of the camp, they went into one tent after another, eating and drinking wine; and they carried off silver and gold and clothing and hid it. 9Finally, they said to each other, "This is not right. This is a day of good news, and we aren't sharing it with anyone! If we wait until morning, some calamity will certainly fall upon us. Come on, let's go back and tell the people at the palace."

10So they went back to the city and told the gatekeepers what had happened. “We went out to the Aramean camp,” they said, “and no one was there! The horses and donkeys were tethered and the tents were all in order, but there wasn’t a single person around!” 11Then the gatekeepers shouted the news to the people in the palace.

15 That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome.

16I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, first to the Jew, then to the Greek.

17For the gospel reveals the righteousness of God that comes by faith from start to finish, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”
Martin Luther camel knees – John Wesley read Luther – every revival starts with this verse

Romans 2:1 ***You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on another. For on whatever grounds you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things.***

This is NOT a passage against judging. Paul just makes the case that you have no excuse for your own sin because you are able to pass judgment. If we lived in a world where there was no judgment, then we would live in an even more corrupt world. You murder, we'll who am I to judge? Actually, the case is clear that if we do not judge, we are condoning evil.

2***And we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth.***

And if there is an objective moral right and wrong, then we must also acknowledge a moral law Giver.

And if there is an objective moral right and wrong, then we must also acknowledge a moral law Giver. The One that bases His judgment on truth alone.

Most of our moral law is based on the O.T. and forms the basis for common law and most laws on the books today. The O.T. defines the same two parts of law breaking that are in today's law. Every first year law student knows the Latin terms of "Actus Reus" and "Mens Reas" or "Guilty Action" and "Guilty Mind". Both must be proven in a court to convict a person. Let me give an example, Marbles on the stairs – me or 3 year old.

Deut 19:5 For example, suppose someone goes into the forest with a neighbor to cut wood. And suppose one of them swings an ax to chop down a tree, and the ax head flies off the handle, killing the other person. In such cases, the slayer may flee to one of the cities of refuge to live in safety.
11 "But suppose someone is hostile toward a neighbor and deliberately ambushes and murders him and then flees to one of the cities of refuge. 12In that case, the elders of the murderer's hometown must send agents to the city of refuge to bring him back and hand him over to the dead person's avenger to be put to death. 13Do not feel sorry for that murderer! Purge from Israel the guilt of murdering innocent people; then all will go well with you.

3So when you, O man, pass judgment on others, yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? 4Or do you disregard the riches of His kindness, tolerance, and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you to repentance?

Paul turns from those bad OTHERS and now makes it personal. Yes, God is tolerant, not of our sin, but is giving us time to repent. Many of us take that we have not yet been judged to think that God will never judge us. But it is like the man that continually runs red lights and that dang camera catches him over and over. He is not stopped immediately, so he keeps running red lights. One day he gets a stack of mail…. 1,023 fines for his infractions. He ignores them. Next comes the knock on his door and he finds himself before the judge asking for mercy. It is too little, too late. God's justice demands a penalty be paid. Paul is building his case for Jesus. Tetalestoi – Paid in full

So again, this passage does not say we should not judge. We should judge – ourselves. Ex. Ray comfort how many lies? Any Questions??? Then, now Brother James is going to tell us how *7He will give eternal life to those who keep on doing good,*

The world can be divided into 2 types of people –
Those that know and desire to worship the Glorious and Ever-Living God
FOOLS

These verses show the downward progression when we choose #2

They KNEW (past tense) God and rejected – despite the overwhelming evidence
They refused to Worship Him – but one day, Every knee shall bow
They even refused to thank Him – a downward spiral
They made up foolish ideas of what God is like
A mean ogre sitting in the heaven waiting to kill you
Santa Claus – we see that today in the "Prosperity Gospel"
Their minds became dark – they could not see the Light
They became confused – Even simple things eludes them
They thought they were wise – so learned, so self-important
They became FOOLS –
Foolish gr asynetos – not able to synthesize facts like a puzzle or logic
Fools gr. Emōran = MORONS

Remember the 2 types – let me tell you about one of the first type
A man who went to his priest daily to confess sins, but never felt justified
He prayed, he fasted, he even crawled up the steps to a chapel on his knees believing that each step would give him one less day in purgatory
One day, as he climbed the steps he was reading Romans "The just shall live by Faith"
The light came on for Martin Luther and he started the protestant revolution

Let me tell you about the 2nd type of people

This first clip is Steven Hawkin – you may know him as a brilliant mathematician
I read his book "A Brief History of Time" in which he doubted the need for God
In his last book "The Grand Design" he outright rejects God – "Since there is a law such as gravity, the universe can and will create itself from NOTHING. Yes, like magic.
Listen to him …
Did you hear him say "philosophy is dead". What did does not realize is that this statement is a philosophical statement and thus is self-refuting and illogical

Next up – Richard Dawkins – the God Delusion - trying to explain No-Thing

When asked what he would say IF he died and met god … listen

And Lastly, Lawrence Krauss = "A universe from Nothing" you will just not believe this….

They all believe in magic … I will leave you with this … now pay attention

Romans 1:28-32

When you hear your sin – raise your right hand …. left hand … stand … right foot in

Think as we read these; what is the worse sin – the worse sin being the one that can do the most damage to the church, to the body of Christ, to the family of God, to us as living stones in God's final temple.

Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. 29Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. 30They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. 31They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. 32They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

Gossip – saying things behind someones back that you would not say to their face
Slander, accusations
Flattery – Saying things to someones face that you would not say behind their back

Proverbs 20:19 *A gossip goes around telling secrets, so don't hang around with chatterers.*

Proverbs 6:*16There are six things the LORD hates—*
no, seven things he detests:
17haughty eyes,
a lying tongue,
hands that kill the innocent,
18a heart that plots evil,
feet that race to do wrong,
19a false witness who pours out lies,
a person who sows discord in a family.

Rev 12:10
10Then I heard a loud voice shouting across the heavens,
"It has come at last—
salvation and power
and the Kingdom of our God,
and the authority of his Christ.
For the accuser of our brothers and sisters
has been thrown down to earth—
the one who accuses them
before our God day and night.

Gossip and slander and accusations is the main method Satan uses to sow discord in the church and attempt to thwart the plans of God.

Joseph James DeAngelo Jr. was born on November 8, 1945, in Bath, New York, to Kathleen Louise DeGroat and Joseph James DeAngelo, a sergeant in the United States Army. He played on the school's baseball team. He graduated with an associate degree in police science, with honors. DeAngelo was a burglary unit police officer in Exeter. He married Sharon Marie Huddle in Placer. In 1980, they purchased a upscale, 3 garage home in Citrus Heights, and they had three daughters. (Joseph James DeAngelo – Wikipedia)

By all accounts this mans background seemed great. A man you would like to have as a neighbor. He served his country in the Army. He served his city as a police officer. He served his community and his family. He was living the American Dream. In recent years he purchased one of those "know your ancestors" DNA tests. What he did not know is that most of those DNA testing sites share the information with the police. And his DNA was found on a murder victim from 1973. For over 40 years he got away with a brutal murder. **As of February 2021, DeAngelo is incarcerated in protective custody at the California State Prison.**

I do not think that anyone would deny that his sentence is just and justice has finally been served. He could have proffered a defense saying "but all the good things I have done should be taken into account. On the whole I am a "good" person. Most of us have this attitude when it comes to sin and how we think God will judge us. "I do my best". "I was born this way". "I used to lie, but it is in the past".

Paul is making it clear that Gentiles and Jews are judged on ALL by our past works. When Gentiles sin they are destroyed. When Jews, who know the law, sin, they are judged even more harshly.

It is not enough to just know the law, you must obey the law.

Many false teachers use these verses to preach a gospel of works. In some ways they are right. But this is the judgment of non-believers. We, who fully trust in the finished work of Jesus on the cross, and not in our works, have a different judgment. There can be no mix of Works and Grace.

And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work. (Romans 11:6)

By definition, Works is not grace. And Grace is not works. If you are relying on your good works, (which are just filthy rags) you are not under Grace. Which one are you trusting in? A better question is "Who are you trusting in"?

Mat 7:1"Do not judge, so that you will not be judged. 2For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you. 3Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? 4Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and look, the log is in your own eye? 5You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye!

Well, we certainly do not want to be known as intolerant judgmental hypocrites

The person who says to you "Do not judge" is actually judging you. The only way a person can say you are judging is by judging your statement.
.
This is a self refuting statement. It is self refuting in the same way as saying "There are no English words longer that 2 letters" or "I always lie" or "My brother has no siblings"

People who accuse you of judging are disapproving of what you are doing. Tolerance seems to be a one-way street.

So, does the Bible call us to make no judgments or to make careful judgments?

First take the log from your eye – then help your brother with his speck. Judge yourself first. We are called to help others.

It is not about if we should judge but how we should judge
Roman 2:1

3 unbiblical judgments:

1. **Do not Re-Invent morality** –
   Is 5:20 – *Woe unto those that call evil good and call good evil..*
   Abortion good: a woman's right to choose. The baby would have a terrible life. A baby would ruin my career at the time it is just getting started.
   Homosexuality good: I was born this way. This is the way I feel, it just seems right in my own eyes. We all need to be tolerant and quit judging. It is good to ask a new friend "What is your preferred pronoun?"

2. **Do Not Ignore your own issue.**
   Gal 6:1 *Brothers and sisters, even if a person is caught in any wrongdoing, you who are spiritual are to restore such a person in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you are not tempted as well.*
   2 Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.

3. **Do not judge beyond what the Bible declares**
   1 Cor 4:4 *For I am not aware of anything against myself; however I am not vindicated by this, but the one who examines me is the Lord. 5Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of human hearts; and then praise will come to each person from God.*
   Abortion – clearly wrong
   Glass of wine with dinner – may not be
   Wearing shorts to church – clearly not

Correct Biblical Judgments:

1. Agree with God – esp. about moral issues –homosexuality/abortion
2. Call Evil as evil and Good as good
3. Private only, or publicly? – ALL of the prophets, apostles, and Jesus confronted

Mal. 2;17 *You have wearied the LORD with your words.*
"How have we wearied him?" you ask.
You have wearied him by saying that all who do evil are good in the LORD's sight, and he is pleased with them. You have wearied him by asking, "Where is the God of justice?"

Mal 3:1 *"Look! I am sending my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. Then the Lord you are seeking will suddenly come to his Temple. The messenger of the covenant, whom you look for so eagerly, is surely coming," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies.*

Mark 11:15 *When they arrived back in Jerusalem, Jesus entered the Temple and began to drive out the people buying and selling animals for sacrifices. He knocked over the tables of the money changers and the chairs of those selling doves, 16and he stopped everyone from using the Temple as a marketplace. 17He said to them, "The Scriptures declare, 'My Temple will be called a house of prayer for all nations,' but you have turned it into a den of thieves."*

Romans 5:1-5

1Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; 4and perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Transition chapter
Two words stand out in Romans 5 – Therefore and Much More Than

Therefore … I think I first heard from Joe Boyette, that when you see a therefore one should always look back to see what it's there for.

It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification. (Roman 4:24,25)

When I think of "Therefore" I also think of "Whereas" two legal terms. Law school students learn that:
Whereas Jack and eat no fat and his wife can eat no lean
And
Whereas They must eat that way for dietary requirements
And
Where as Happy Butcher has the desire and ability to provide for them
Then
Therefore Jack and his wife enters into this agreement with Happy Butcher.

This is the same logic Paul has been using in that
Whereas those without the law sin and
Whereas those with the Law sin and
Whereas all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and
Whereas Christ dies for our sins
Therefore … We have PEACE

And “much more than”; reminds me of Home shopping club and Ron Propel selling his knifes.. “But Wait, there’s more”

But wait there's more … or is it says in King James "and not only that"
He is Jehovah jireh our provider; but wait there's more
He Is Jehovah rapha our heale;r but wait there's more
He Is Jehovah nissi are banner; but wait there's more
He is Jehovah Shalom our peace

I have thought back through 50 years of sermons which is probably over 2,000 and I cannot recall a preacher every using Romans 5 as the anchor scripture. And this surprises me, cause this chapter will preach. Brother Harold, have you ever preached this text ?

In a way it also reminds me of applying for a job interview. After determining your job duties and hours and pay – what is the one thing you might be most interested in knowing ….. ASK the Question?

The benefits – You might be offered a great signing bonus, maybe access to the executive dining room, and an out of the world retirement plan. Paul now gives us the benefits of being justified by our faith in Messiah. And we will see, God’s retirement plans is truly out of this world.

It is all built on doctrinal foundations revealed in the first four chapters. It's fine when we're first save to know only that I was blind and now I see but has mature Christians we should know the elementary doctrines of God like Hebrews 6 tells us
Doctrine of man and original sin
Doctrine of repentance from dead works
Doctrine of salvation by faith alone
Doctrine of baptisms

So much for a background on Romans 5 – let's delve in deep

v1. We have **peace** … not just a ceasefire. Germany vs n.Korea peace is permanent

Jesus is the Prince of PEACE (Isaiah 9:6)

But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
*The chastisement **for our peace** was upon Him,*
And by His stripes we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5)

*6Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 7Then **you will experience God's peace**, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.*

Peace with God is a fact, the peace of God is a feeling – both are needed

Jesus as Savior brings us the peace with God,
Jesus as Lord brings us the peace of God

We have **Access** – If we were meeting the Queen or King, before we gain access an intermediary might instruct us on proper protocol and proper attire. It would just not be fittin' to show up in rags into the presence of the King of Kings. And if we show up in our own righteousness – **what are we wearing ?**

We will see the Glory of God – **heaven**
Not even Moses got to see God's full glory. Moses saw a bush on fire and not consumed, saw the sea part and then drown his enemies, saw the finger of God write His laws, saw bread fall from the sky to sustain everyone. That seems like that would be enough – right? But no, greedy Moses wanted to see God's full Glory. He prayed for that – we will receive it. !

We have the Past – peace by the cross, the present – access, and the future, heaven. God has covered it all.

Remove the plank from your own eye first

I tell you, the world think we are foolish, wasting our time, coming to Bible study on Sundays and then living just like them during the week. They think of us as hypocrites because we acknowledge God.

Romans 1:28 *Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. 29Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. 30They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. 31They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. 32They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.*

Romans 2:1 *You may think you can condemn such people, but you are just as bad, and you have no excuse! When you say they are wicked and should be punished, you are condemning yourself, for you who judge others do these very same things. 2And we know that God, in his justice, will punish anyone who does such things. 3Since you judge others for doing these things, why do you think you can avoid God's judgment when you do the same things? 5But because you are stubborn and refuse to turn from your sin, you are storing up terrible punishment for yourself. For a day of anger is coming, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. 6He will judge everyone according to what they have done. . 8But he will pour out his anger and wrath on those who live for themselves, who refuse to obey the truth and instead live lives of wickedness. 9There will be trouble and calamity for everyone who keeps on doing what is evil 16And this is the message I proclaim—that the day is coming when God, through Christ Jesus, will judge everyone's secret life.*
20You think you can instruct the ignorant and teach children the ways of God. For you are certain that God's law gives you complete knowledge and truth. 21Well then, if you teach others, why don't you teach yourself. 23You are so proud of knowing the law, but you dishonor God by breaking it

Romans 3 21 ***But now God*** *has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses*[i] *and the prophets long ago.* 22*We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.*
23*For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.* 24*Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.* 25*For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood.*

Lev 27 "The bull and the goat presented as sin offerings, whose blood Aaron takes into the Most Holy Place for the purification ceremony,

Takes the blood as proof of death – wages of sin is death
The outer Court / The holy place / the Most Holy Place
The ark of covenant – ten commandments – which all broke

Heb 11So Christ has now become the High Priest over all the good things that have come. He has entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven, which was not made by human hands and is not part of this created world. 12With his own blood—not the blood of goats and calves—he entered the Most Holy Place once for all time and secured our redemption forever.

Romans 38And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,p neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. 39No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Good Gift

Mat 7:7 *"Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. 8For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. 9"You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? 10Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! 11So if you sinful people know how to give* ***good gifts to your children****, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.*

One possible GIFT is salvation

Eph 2:8God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; **it is a gift from God**. 9**Salvation** is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it

Romans 8:15 *...you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father."*

But once we receive this Salvation gift, we are then children of God; and God is now our Father. Since Mat 7:10 already assumes we are children, this gift is not referring to salvation. It must be a different gift …. But what ??

One Gift for children – the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Acts2:1*On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. 2Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. 3Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. 4And everyone present was* ***filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages****, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.*

Acts2:38*Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the* ***gift of the Holy Spirit****. 39This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God."*

Also for us gentiles

Acts 10:*44Even as Peter was saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the message. 45The Jewish believerse who came with Peter were amazed that* ***the gift of the Holy Spirit*** *had been poured out on the Gentiles, too. 46For they heard them* ***speaking in other tongues*** *and praising God.*

Acts11:5"*As I began to speak," Peter continued, "the Holy Spirit fell on them, just as he fell on us at the beginning. 16Then I thought of the Lord's words when he said, 'John baptized withe water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17And since* ***God gave these Gentiles the same gift*** *he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to stand in God's way?"*

This one gift is manifested in various ways

1 Peter 4:*10****God has given each of*** *you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. 11Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ.*

Romans 12:*6In his grace,* ***God has given us different gifts*** *for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. 7If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. 8If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.*

Confirmation from parallel passage in Luke

Luke 11: 11 *"You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? 12 Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! 13 So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father* ***give the Holy Spirit*** *to those who ask him."*

Why does Matthew say "Good Gifts" while Luke says "Holy Spirit".
I think Matthew, writing for Jewish audience and Luke for gentiles.
Matthew also never uses the "*Kingdom of God*" but instead "*Kingdom of Heaven*"
Even today Jews following the Talmud will not use the name of God or even write it.
Instead the write G_d, thus avoiding any possibility of using Gods name in vain.

A stone can at a glace look like bread
A snake, from a distance, can look like a fish

But if we ask our Father for the gift of the Holy Spirit. If we seek for this gift so that we can become better witnesses. If we keep knocking on that door, then God has promised we will receive bread, not stones. As I have prayed for many people to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the evidence of speaking in tongues, some have asked how do I know I am not just babbling, making this up.? The answer is simple – God has promised this gift to us if ….. ask, seek, knock !

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the MEDAL OF HONOR to

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS DESMOND T. DOSS
UNITED STATES ARMY

for service as set forth in the following

Citation: Private First Class Desmond T. Doss, United States Army, Medical Detachment, 307th Infantry, 77th Infantry Division. Near Urasoe-Mura, Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, 29 April – 21 May 1945. **He was a company aid man when the 1st Battalion assaulted a jagged escarpment 400 feet high. As our troops gained the summit, a heavy concentration of artillery, mortar and machinegun fire crashed into them, inflicting approximately 75 casualties and driving the others back. Private First Class Doss refused to seek cover and remained in the fire-swept area with the many stricken, carrying them one by one to the edge of the escarpment and there lowering them on a rope-supported litter down the face of a cliff to friendly hands. On 2 May, he exposed himself to heavy rifle and mortar fire in rescuing a wounded man 200 yards forward of the lines on the same escarpment; and two days later he treated four men who had been cut down while assaulting a strongly defended cave, advancing through a shower of grenades to within eight yards of enemy forces in a cave's mouth, where he dressed his comrades' wounds before making four separate trips under fire to evacuate them to safety. On 5 May, he unhesitatingly braved enemy shelling and small arms fire to assist an artillery officer. He applied bandages, moved his patient to a spot that offered protection from small-arms fire and, while artillery and mortar shells fell close by, painstakingly administered plasma. Later that day, when an American was severely wounded by fire from a cave, Private First Class Doss crawled to him where he had fallen 25 feet from the enemy position, rendered aid, and carried him 100 yards to safety while continually exposed to enemy fire. On 21 May, in a night attack on high ground near Shuri, he remained in exposed territory while the rest of his company took cover, fearlessly risking the chance that he would be mistaken for an infiltrating Japanese and giving aid to the injured until he was himself seriously wounded in the legs by the explosion of a grenade**. … **His name became a symbol throughout the 77th Infantry Division for outstanding gallantry far above and beyond the call of duty.**

Saved 75 – prayed … "just one more" !

Heroo Onoda continued his campaign as a Japanese holdout, initially living in the mountains of Lubang Island in the Philippines, with three fellow soldiers

The first time they saw a leaflet announcing that Japan had surrendered was in October 1945; another cell had killed a cow and found a leaflet left behind by islanders which read: "The war ended on 15 August. Come down from the mountains!"[8] However, they distrusted the leaflet. They concluded that it was Allied propaganda

Toward the end of 1945, leaflets were dropped by air with a surrender order printed on them from General Tomoyuki Yamashita of the Fourteenth Area Army. To the men who had been in hiding for over six months, this leaflet was the only evidence they had that the war was over. Onoda's group studied the leaflet closely to determine whether it was genuine, and decided it was not.

On 20 February 1974, Onoda met a Japanese man, Norio Suzuki, who was traveling around the world, looking for "Lieutenant Onoda, a panda, and the Abominable Snowman, in that order".[4] Suzuki found Onoda after four days of searching. but Onoda still refused to surrender, saying that he was **waiting for orders from a superior officer.** Suzuki returned to Japan with photographs of himself and Onoda as proof of their encounter, and the Japanese government located Onoda's commanding officer, Major Yoshimi Taniguchi, who had long surrendered and since become a bookseller. Taniguchi went to Lubang Island, and on 9 March 1974, he finally met with Onoda and fulfilled a promise he had made back in 1944**: "Whatever happens, we'll come back for you".**

Taniguchi then issued Onoda the following orders:
1. In accordance with the Imperial command, the Fourteenth Area Army has ceased all combat activity.
2. In accordance with military Headquarters Command No. A-2003, the Special Squadron of Staff's Headquarters is relieved of all military duties.
3. Units and individuals under the command of Special Squadron are to cease military activities and operations immediately and place themselves under the command of the nearest superior officer. When no officer can be found, they are to communicate with the American or Philippine forces and follow their directives.[9]

Onoda was thus properly relieved of duty, and he surrendered.

Romans 7:10 *So I discovered that **the law's commands**, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death instead.*
When Paul refers to the **Law** he is specifically referring to the **Law of Moses**

1. The Ceremonial law – Sacrifices and dietary
2. the Civil law – Restitution if you damage others property
3. the Moral law – Do not kill / the 10 commandments

The laws of Moses did NOT introduce the moral or ceremonial law.
Cain and Able offered sacrifices to God
Cain killed Able and was judged.
Gen 9:4 *But **you must never eat any meat that still has the lifeblood** in it.*
*5 "And I will require the blood of anyone who takes another person's life. If a wild animal kills a person, it must die. And anyone who murders a fellow human must die. 6 **If anyone takes a human life, that person's life will also be taken by human hands.***
Gen 20:3 *One night, however, God came to Abimelech in a dream and told him, "You are as good as dead because of the woman you have taken**, for she is a married woman**."*
These are prior to the Laws of Moses and applicable to all people all the time.

As soon as America broke from England, we established the Articles of Confederation. And then in 1789 the states ratified the constitution. In the same way, as soon as Israel broke from the law of Pharaoh, God gave them Laws as his special people.
***Exodus 19:5** Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be **my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth**; for all the earth belongs to me. 6 And you will be my kingdom of priests, **my holy nation**.'*

Galatians 3:19 *Why, then, was the law given? It was given alongside the promise to show people their sins. But the law was designed to last only **until the coming of the child** who was promised.*

Matt 5:17 *"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. 18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law **till all is fulfilled**.*

Luke 22:37 *For the time has come for this prophecy about me to be **fulfilled**: 'He was counted among the rebels.' **Yes, everything written about me by the prophets will come true."***

Jer. 31:31 *"The day is coming," says the LORD, "when I will make a* ***new covenant*** *with the people of Israel and Judah. 32 This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt.* **Mosaic Covenant**

Luke 22:20 *After supper he took another cup of wine and said, "This cup is the* ***new covenant*** *between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you.*

Gal. 8:13 *When God speaks of a "new" covenant, it means* ***he has made the first one obsolete.*** *It is now out of date and will soon disappear.*

Acts 15:28 *“For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay no greater burden on you than these few requirements: 29 You must abstain from eating food offered to idols,* ***from consuming blood*** *or the meat of strangled animals, and* ***from sexual immorality****. If you do this, you will do well. Farewell.”*

Gen 20:3 *One night, however, God came to Abimelech in a dream and told him, “You are as good as dead because of the woman you have taken****, for she is a married woman****.”*
Chinese christians 100 million
Chinese Jews converts 1000
NA christians 80%
NA jew converts 10

Catholics have idols and worship Mary and saints pray to them icons and veneration so their 10 commandments skip #2

2nd Timothy 3:15You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. 17 God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

3 Main purposes of OT
1 A tutor to lead us to Jesus
2 to learn the heart of Jesus
3 Revealing Jesus

A tutor
The law was our tutor to bring us to Christ.

The heart of Jesus
Care for the poor and the fatherless

Revealing Jesus

Luke 24:27 Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.
I'm looking forward One Day in heaven to sit down with Jesus for that bible study. You're welcome to join me if you wish. Maybe we will cook a little salmon over an open fire while we study.

He may ask, "Larry, do you remember in Genesis how God spoke all of creation into existence from nothing. I am the Word, the one that spoke everything you see into being" which is why John wrote in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,and the Word was God"

Now, remember, when the children of Israel had need of water I had Moses speak to a rock and life giving water flowed. I am the living water, everyone that comes to me will never thirst again

And, remember, how I provided manna, bread from heaven while my people who wandered in the wilderness. I am that true bread from heaven feeding you my Word daily to encourage and nurish you. Although there were times you chose not to partake.

The Temple was always about Me. It is why I inspired John to write destroy this temple and I will raise it up in 3 days. I, the living God, tabernacled with them.

Don't forget about how the children of Israel were dying in their sin until I had Moses make a bronze serpent and everyone that looked to it was healed. And just as the bronze serpent was salvation everyone, when you looked to me as a curse for your sin I saved you.

And as the high priest could enter once a year with blood into the holy of holies to make intercession for the people, I entered once, with my blood, and always interceded to My Father on your behalf

And the lamb, the pure spotless lamb, that shed his blood to delay punishments. I inspired my cousin to call out "Behold, the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world"

I could sit for days, eating fish, listening to the best Bible study ever. And you're welcome to join me.

Huiosthesia Romans 8:15 *So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he **adopted** you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father."*

Brephos in womb or newborn
Luke 2:16 *They* (the shepherds *) hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the **baby**, lying in the manger.*
1st Peter 2:2 *Like newborn **babies**, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment,*

Paidion Child/Toddler
Mat 2:11 *And when they* (the Magi) *were come into the house, they saw **the young child** with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him:*

Teknon Young man
Luke 2:48,*49 So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "**Son**, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously." And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"*
Mat 15:26 Jesus responded, "It isn't right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs."

Huios Mature son
Mat 3:16,17 *After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved **Son**, who brings me great joy."*

7 Rites of Passage in Jesus' life

1. Conception - Brephos
2. Birth - Brephos
3. Weaning – Paidion
4. Bar-mitzvah - Teknon
5. Marriage –
6. Fully Mature – Huios
7. Death – Huios

Jesus took over the Father's business …
Jehovah Shama – The LORD is there (Jesus will never leave us or forsake us)
Jehoval Rapha – The LORD our healer (Jesus healed all that were infirmed)
Jehovah Shalom – The LORD our peace (Jesus is the Prince of Peace)
Jehovah Jirah – the LORD our provider (Jesus turn water to wine and fed 5,000)

Huiosthesia Romans 8:15 *So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit and **have been placed as a fully mature child of your heavenly Father**. Now we call him, "Abba, Father."*

And thus we can fulfill the great commission by going into all the world and preach the Gospel.

O.T. Cross References

Gen 3:18 Thorns are part of the curse
Roman 8:22 Creation groans
Mat 27:29 Crown of thorns

Paul is not preaching a new religion – he quotes OT to prove this point and to answer the question "If Jesus is the Messiah – why do so many Jews not accept Him.

More OT cross references than any passage I know of … at least a dozen different books

Romans 9:1 : Ps 15:2
Romans 9:3 : *I would be willing to be forever cursed—cut off from Christ!—if that would save them* Ex 32:32 *But now, if you will only forgive their sin—but if not, erase my name from the record you have written!"* (Moses)
Romans 9:4 : Ex 4:22; *Then you will tell him, 'This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son*.6:7 *I will claim you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God who has freed you from your oppression in Egypt.*; Dt 7:6 *For you are a holy people, who belong to the LORD your God. Of all the people on earth, the LORD your God has chosen you to be his own special treasure.*
Romans 9:4 : Ge 17:2; Dt 4:13 --- 7 "Theirs" in Romans – from adoption to forbearers of Jesus
Romans 9:4 : Ps 147:19
Romans 9:7 : "*Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted,"* Ge 21:12 *Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted.*
Romans 9:9 : Ge 18:10, 14
Romans 9:10 : Ge 25:21
Romans 9:12 : Ge 25:23 "*your older son will serve your younger son."*
Romans 9:13 : Mal 1:2, 3
Romans 9:15 : Ex 33:19
Romans 9:17 : Ex 9:16; 14:4; Ps 76:10
Romans 9:18 : Ex 4:21 *But I will harden his heart so he will refuse to let the people go*.; Ex 8:32 *Pharaoh hardened his heart at this time also; neither would he let the people go.* 7:3; 14:4, 17; Dt 2:30
Romans 9:19 : 2Sa 16:10; 2Ch 20:6; Da 4:35
Romans 9:20 : Job 1:22; 9:12; 40:2
Romans 9:20 : Isa 64:8 *And yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, and you are the potter. We all are formed by your hand.;* Jer 18:6
Romans 9:20 : Isa 29:16; 45:9; 10:15
Romans 9:22 : Pr 16:4
Romans 9:25 : Hos 2:23 *I will show love to those I called 'Not loved.' And to those I called 'Not my people,' I will say, 'Now you are my people.' And they will reply, 'You are our God!'"*

Romans 9:*14* *What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Certainly not!* *15*For He says to Moses:

"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."[f]

*16*So then, it does not depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy. *17*For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display My power in you, and that My name might be proclaimed in all the earth."[g] *18*Therefore God has mercy on whom He wants to have mercy, and He hardens whom He wants to harden.

Doctrine of "Divine or Judicial Hardening": Pharaoh hardened his own heart in one passage and God hardened it in others.

19One of you will say to me, "Then why does God still find fault? For who can resist His will?" 20But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? Shall what is formed say to Him who formed it, "Why did You make me like this?"[h] 21Does not the potter have the right to make from the same lump of clay one vessel for special occasions and another for common use?

22**What if** God, intending to show His wrath and make His power known, **bore with great patience** the vessels of His wrath, **prepared** for destruction? 23**What if** He did this to make the riches of His glory known to the vessels of His mercy, whom **He prepared** in advance for glory— 24including us, whom He has called not only from the Jews, but also from the Gentiles? 25As He says in Hosea:

Active vs Passive verbs. In the vessels of wrath it does NOT say God prepared them for destruction. In the vessels of Mercy – God is Active – He prepared.
God actively works in the lives of believers and allows sinners the free will to head to destruction

"I will call them 'My People' who are not My people,
and I will call her 'My Beloved' who is not My beloved,"[i] 26and,

"It will happen that in the very place where it was said to them,
'You are not My people,'
they will be called
'sons of the living God.'"[j]

27Isaiah cries out concerning Israel:

"Though the number of the Israelites is like the sand of the sea,
only the remnant will be saved.
28For the Lord will carry out His sentence on the earth
thoroughly and decisively."[k]

29It is just as Isaiah foretold:

"Unless the Lord of Hosts had left us descendants,
we would have become like Sodom,
we would have resembled Gomorrah."[l]

Israel's Unbelief

30What then will we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith; 31but Israel, who pursued a law of righteousness, has not attained it. 32Why not? Because their pursuit was not by faith, but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone, 33as it is written:

"See, I lay in Zion a stone of stumbling
and a rock of offense;[m]
and the one who believes in Him
will never be put to shame."[n]

Doctrine of "Divine or Judicial Hardening"

Romans 9:17 *For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display My power in you, and that My name might be proclaimed in all the earth."18 Therefore God has mercy on whom He wants to have mercy, and* ***He hardens whom He wants to harden.*** (Does Pharaoh have free will or is he pre-destined?)

First, we first must understand that hardening does not change one's nature. Only solidifies it. Take water for example. To solidify it; you only have to harden it by freezing. It does not change the nature of water – it is still H2O.

Ex 7:3 And ***I will harden Pharaoh's heart****, and multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt. 4 But Pharaoh will not heed you, so that I may lay My hand on Egypt and bring My armies and My people, the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments.* 5 *And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord,* ***when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the children of Israel from among them****."*

Q: Who will harden Pharaohs heart?

1. Circumstances or actions
2. Pharaoh
3. God

Q: Look at the tense and answer the following:

1. God has hardened Pharaohs heart in the Past
2. God is hardening Pharaohs heart in the Present
3. God will harden Pharaohs heart in the Future

Ex 7:14 *So the Lord said to Moses: "****Pharaoh's heart is hard****;* ***he refuses*** *to let the people go.*

Q: What hardened Pharaohs heart?

1. Circumstances or actions
2. Pharaoh
3. God

Q: Look at the tense and answer the following:

1. Pharaohs heart is hardened in the Past
2. Pharaohs heart is hardened in the Present
3. Pharaohs heart is hardened in the Future

Ex 8:15 *But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief,* ***he hardened his heart*** *and did not heed them, as the LORD had said.*

Q: Who hardened Pharaoh's heart in this passage?

1. Circumstances or actions
2. Pharaoh
3. God

Ex 14:8 ***The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh****, the king of Egypt, so he chased after the people of Israel, who had left with fists raised in defiance.* (following the "***bringing out the children of Israel"***) Ex. 7:3

Q: Who hardened Pharaohs heart?

1. Circumstances or actions
2. Pharaoh
3. God

Q: When was this final hardening?

2nd Peter 3:9, 3:15 / Romans 1:21 / Hebrews 4:7 / 2nd Cor 6:2 / Psalms 95:8/ 1st Tim 1:1

Paul is making the point that God is sovereign --- absolutely. God has the right to do anything He wants, but He chooses patience and mercy. As Peter said … in 2nd Peter 3:9 *The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants* ***everyone*** *to repent.*

Peter also makes the point that ignorant people may misunderstand some of Paul's writings in this regard. 2Peter 3:15 15 And remember, our Lord's patience gives people time to be saved. This is what our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you with the wisdom God gave him— 16speaking of these things in all of his letters. Some of his comments are hard to understand, and those who are ignorant and unstable have twisted his letters to mean something quite different, just as they do with other parts of Scripture.

Romans 1:21 *Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and* ***their foolish hearts were darkened.*** 28 *And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge,* ***God gave them over to a debased mind,*** *to do those things which are not fitting;*

96% of people who accept Christ are under 30. Way less than 1% are in their 70's/80's as they near eternity. Consider this scenario:
Age 12 – You hear the gospel and almost persuaded – but for the peer pressure. There will be time.
Age 20 – After years in church, the teachings in college have given you doubts.
Age 30 – Doubts have turned into disbelieve and besides if you accept Christ now you have to give up what you consider the pleasures of sin. There will be time.
Age 40 – Tragedy strikes! Now your disbelieve turns to anger towards your creator.
Age 60 – No thought of God anymore. No church. You mock Christians.
Age 80 – Time has come – you think back on your youth – knowing your are soon to step into eternity – A Christian friends comes to pray with you – but your heard is hardened and finding faith seems beyond your ability. You may even repeat the sinner's prayer but you doubt in your belief.

Hebrews 4:7 … *"****Today****, if you will hear His voice,* ***Do not harden your hearts****."*

2nd Cor 6:2 *For God says, "At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you." Indeed, the "right time" is now****. Today is the day of salvation****.* (NLT)

Psalms 95:6 *Come, let us worship and bow down.*
Let us kneel before the LORD our maker, 7 for he is our God.
We are the people he watches over, the flock under his care.
If only you would listen to his voice ***today****!*
*8The LORD says, "****Don't harden your hearts*** *as Israel did at Meribah,*

Another Scenario:
Age 16: You have gone to church your whole life and has almost given your life to Christ a few times. But the need for approval leads first into sex and then into drugs. You feel terrible – your conscience calling to repentance. But you push that feeling down. The more you fall into sin, the more you bury your conscience until at the age of 23 you overdose and your last thought is "God, help me."

1Tim 1:*1 Now the Spirit speaks expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy;* ***having their conscience seared with a hot iron****;*

What a picture. Think of the first time a branding iron touches your arm. Such pain! And it leaves a scar tissueThe iron is placed in the same spot – it hurts less this time – The scar tissue from the first time feels no pain. It keeps on – until you feel nothing. Sin does this to your conscience.

Continual rejection of the Holy Spirit may be blasphemy of the Holy Spirit (Mat 12:31)

Romans 9 Recap – many OT references

V1: Speaking to the Jews
V7: Abraham saved by faith before the Law
V8: Isaac not Ishmael – showing God's promise not man's plan
V11: Jacob not Esau – God picked before they were born
(before Jacob did any good or bad)
V16: God finally hardened Pharaoh's heart
V25: Hosea – God rejects then accepts the Jews
V30: Jesus is the stumbling stone for Israel

Romans 10:

V1: Paul prays for Israel to be saved. If God has hardened Israels heart, is Paul praying against God's will? No. Hard hearts can be softened. So pray for our family that has strayed. "God, please soften the heart of my [Father], [Son], [Daughter], [Husband]"

V5: if we are going to follow the Law – one must follow ALL the Law.

Deut: 30:1-14 *But the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you may obey it.*

The name of Jesus

A rose by any other name is just as sweet. (Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet, spoken by Juliet Capulet (Act 2, Scene 2)

So whether we call on the name of Jesus (English) or Iosous (Greek) or Yeshua (Hebrew) or Issus (Ukranian), we MUST acknowledge the **person** of Jesus as uniquely God and the one who took on human form, died and rose again for us. Our salvation depends entirely on trusting in Him and His righteousness and not our own works.

Roman 10:9 *If you openly declare that **Jesus is Lord** and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.*

1st Thes. 4:14 *For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died.*

Gal. 2:16 *Yet we know that a person is made right with God by **faith in Jesus Christ**, not by obeying the law. And we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law. For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law.*

Phil. 2:10,11: *...at the **name of Jesus** every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Acts 3:16 *"Through faith in the **name of Jesus**, this man was healed—and you know how crippled he was before. Faith in Jesus' name has healed him before your very eyes.*

1st Cor. 15:17-19 *And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.*

1st Cor 1:2 *I am writing to God's church in Corinth, to you who have been called by God to be his own holy people. He made you holy by means of Christ Jesus, just as he did for all people everywhere who call on the **name of our Lord Jesus Christ**, their Lord and ours.*

Acts 4:12 *"There is salvation in no one else! God has given **no other name** under heaven by which we must be saved."*

John 14:6 *Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. **No one can come to the Father except through me.***

So, what shall we conclude about the person seeking God with all his heart who has no opportunity to have ever heard about the name of Jesus? I believe that God has the ability to reveal Jesus to every tribe, no matter how remote.

Rev. 5:9 *And they sang a new song with these words: "You are worthy to take the scroll and break its seals and open it. For you were slaughtered, and your blood has ransomed people for God from **every tribe and language and people and nation.***

James 2:19 *You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even **the demons believe this, and they tremble** in terror.*

Romans 3:22 *We are made right with God by placing our **faith in Jesus Christ**. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.*

Q: Why would Paul and Jesus tell His disciples to go into all the world if anyone could be saved with knowledge of Jesus. ?

Roman 10:14 *But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And **how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?***

Romans 15:20 *My ambition has always been to **preach the Good News where the name of Christ has never been heard**, rather than where a church has already been started by someone else.*

Luke 12:8 *"I tell you the truth, everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, the Son of Man will also acknowledge in the presence of God's angels*

Salvation:

1. **Saved for Eternity** – 1stPeter 1:8,9 - *Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. The reward for trusting him will be the **salvation of your souls**.*
2. **Saved from tribulation –** 1st Thes. 5:2,9 - *For you know quite well that the day of the Lord's return will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night. … For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, **not to pour out his anger** on us.*
   Acts 16:*27*-31 *The jailer woke up to see the prison doors wide open. He assumed the prisoners had escaped, so he drew his sword to kill himself. But Paul shouted to him, "Stop! Don't kill yourself! We are all here!" The jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them out and asked, "**Sirs, what must I do to be saved?**"*
   They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household."
3. **Saved for Sanctification -** Phil 2:12 *Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. **Work hard to show the results of your salvation**, obeying God with deep reverence and fear.*

Roman 10:9 *If you openly declare that **Jesus is Lord** and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.* (for eternity) *For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.* (and sanctified from sin)

Roman 10:14 *But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And* ***how can they hear about him unless someone tells them***

1st Peter 3:15,16 … *you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer,* ***always be ready to explain it****. But do this in a gentle and respectful way*

The 10 Commandments are a tutor to show us our sin.

We must be able to answer "There is no evidence for God."

Here are 5 good reasons:

1. The Design Inference – Buildings require a builder, paintings require a painter, and creation demands a creator.
2. The Kalam Cosmological Argument – Everything that begins to exist requires a cause. The universe (time, space, matter) began to exist. The universe demands a cause. This cause must be timeless, space-less, immaterial, and personal.
3. Fullfilled Prophesy in the Bible – The Tyre prophesy in Ezekiel 26
   Ez 26:*12 "They will plunder all your riches and merchandise and break down your walls. They will destroy your lovely homes and dump your stones and timbers and even your dust into the sea."*
   History records Alexander did exactly this hundreds of years later.
4. Historical evidence of the resurrection – Jesus is ALIVE
   A - A Death by Crucifixion
   L - Ladies find the empty tomb (credibility of embarrassment)
   I - Individual appearances (500 at one time – alive at the time)
   V - Violence done to the apostles (Stephen, Peter, Paul)
   E - Enemies of Jesus converted (Jude, James, Paul)
5. Personal testimony – Your love of Jesus. Billions agree.

Chapter XIII: submit to governing authorities

Romans 13:1 – 1***Everyone must submit to governing authorities***. *For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God.* 2*So anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and they will be punished.* 3*For the authorities do not strike fear in people who are doing right, but in those who are doing wrong. Would you like to live without fear of the authorities? Do what is right, and they will honor you.* 4***The authorities are God's servants, sent for your good.*** *But if you are doing wrong, of course you should be afraid, for they have the power to punish you. They are God's servants, sent for the very purpose of punishing those who do what is wrong.* 5***So you must submit to them***, *not only to avoid punishment, but also to keep a clear conscience.*

Titus 3:1 1*Remind the believers to submit to the government and its officers. They should be obedient, always ready to do what is good.*

Authorities:
God's written Word – Submit to Authority
God's spoken Word – Something God put on your heart that does not conflict with Word
US Constitution – Bill of Rights / Supreme Court Cases federal=covenant
federal (adj.) 1640s from French fédéral , an adjective formed from Latin foedus "covenant, league, treaty)
State Constitution – State Supreme Court / 11th Circuit Court
Local Ordinance – Traffic laws – speed traps in Georgia
Homeowners Covenants and Restrictions – no weeds please, no soliciting
Parents – of child living at home

Exceptions:
1. Throwing off an oppressive invading government. A. Jews & Philistines
2. Fleeing from persecution. A: Jesus to Egypt B: Paul lowered by basket
3. Refusing to follow an evil law. A: Moses kill male children. B: Nuremberg
4. Continuing to evangelize against laws prohibiting. A. Peter & John Acts 4:18

Acts 4:18*So they called the apostles back in and commanded them never again to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.*19*But Peter and John replied, "****Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him?*** 20*We cannot stop telling about everything we have seen and heard."*21*The council then threatened them further, but they finally let them go because they didn't know how to punish them without starting a riot.*

Senerio:
The homeowners association passes a declaration – "No preaching allowed in the public park or sidewalks. And no one is allowed to approach residences homes to solicit them to church or pass out tracts. All entrances to the neighborhood have "NO Soliciting" signs posted."

So ….. WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOU FEEL LED TO PASS OUT TRACTS ? ? ? ?

Problem 1 is declaring that knocking on doors and inviting people to church or passing out tracts is a form of soliciting. Soliciting is offering goods or services for money. Also, you might be surprised to know that solicitation itself isn't a crime. It's legal in the United States. Based on laws passed by the Supreme Court, even a salesperson has the lawful right to travel to any location. They uphold the right to free speech for commercial purposes

An actual case:

The village of Stratton, OH passed a town ordinance. It's provisions making it a misdemeanor to engage in door-to-door advocacy without first registering with town officials and receiving a permit from the Mayor.

A woman lay person, without a permit, was going door to door passing out tracts and talking to her neighbors. The police approached and told her to stop. She didn't. The officer told her "*You're lucky you are a woman or I would arrest you*". Her response, "*Don't let that stop you*". In 2002, the case ended up in the Supreme Court and they issued this rare 8:1 opinion.

Watchtower Bible & Tract Society of New York, Inc. v. Village of Stratton, 536 U.S. 150 (2002),
Opinion: *The pernicious effect of the permit requirement is illustrated by, e. g., the requirement that a canvasser be identified in a permit application filed in the mayor's office and made available for public inspection, which necessarily results in a* ***surrender of the anonymity this Court has protected****. Also central to the Court's conclusion that the ordinance* ***does not pass First Amendment scrutiny*** *is that it is not tailored to the Village's stated interests. Even if the interest in preventing fraud could adequately support the ordinance insofar as it applies to commercial transactions and the solicitation of funds, that interest provides no support for its application to petitioners, to political campaigns, or to enlisting support for unpopular causes.*

Another Senerio:
Now Richard has a sign in his yard – "**no soliciting / no trespassing"** – this is his right and if someone approaches uninvited, then he may legally obtain a trespass warning. Also a closed or locked gated fence establishes privacy. Barring such individual signs all are welcome to knock on any door at reasonable time, place, and manner to pass out tracts or invite the resident to church.

Conclusion:
So if the police were to arrest someone for door to door soliciting or passing out tracts, the arresting officer could very well lose *qualified immunity* since this is now established case law. The police, in fact, could be charged under Title 18, USC 242 – Deprivation of rights.

"*Whoever, under color of any law, statute, ordinance, regulation, or custom, willfully subjects any person in any State … to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured or* ***protected by the Constitution*** *or laws of the United States, … shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than one year, or both*;"

Chapter XIII: submit to governing authorities

Romans 13:6 *Pay your taxes, too, for these same reasons. For government workers need to be paid.* ***They are serving God in what they do****.* 7*Give to everyone what you owe them: Pay your taxes and government fees to those who collect them, and* ***give respect and honor*** *to those who are in authority.*

Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesars and to God the things that are Gods.

Marsha piano fees – easy to ignore

Inflation reduction act – According to Barron's research this will tax Amazon an extra 15% off the top or about $200 billion over the life of the bill. Now, will Amazon pay this tax? Nope! It will be passed on to consumers in higher prices and guess what – inflation will go up even more.

8*Owe nothing to anyone—except for your obligation to* ***love*** *one another. If you* ***love*** *your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God's law.* 9*For the commandments say, "You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not covet."*a *These—and other such commandments—are summed up in this one commandment: "****Love*** *your neighbor as yourself."* ***10******Love*** *does no wrong to others, so* ***love*** *fulfills the requirements of God's law.*

Does this mean you should never get a mortgage?
OT says we should loan to others in need. Exodus 22:*25 "If you lend money to any of my people who are in need, do not charge interest as a money lender would.*

Love is the point of this passage.

11This is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 12The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and put on the shining armor of right living. 13Because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see. Don't participate in the darkness of wild parties and drunkenness, or in sexual promiscuity and immoral living, or in quarreling and jealousy. 14Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.

Paul, in the book of Romans, gives us five motivations living a Christian life:

1. 6:10 We have a new nature
2. 6:16 We are no longer slaves to sin
3. 6:21 We look back at our past life and are ashamed of our sin
4. 7:4 We are married to Christ – a new relationship
5. 13:11 **Time is running out**

Consider this. What would you do different if you knew Jesus would return three weeks from now, Sept 4th, 2022 at 8:45 am? Would you go to wild drunken parties, live immorally, quarrel with everyone? Or would you tell everyone you meet – "Salvation is near – Repent and Believe."

Chapter XIII: Our Liberty in Christ – Strong vs Weak

1. Raise your hand if you think it's a sin to break any of the ten commandments
Anyone who raised their hand should be observing the Sabbath which is Friday and sundown till Saturday at sundown.
2. Raise your hand if you think it's a sin to drink wine
If you raised your hand do you think Jesus was wrong to make wine at the wedding in Cana for that Paul was wrong to tell Timothy to drink some wine
3. Raise your hand if you think it's a sin to have musical instruments in the church
Of course no one here thinks that, but millions of the members of the Church of Christ prohibit musical instruments in their worship
A: Those that are weak in the faith are the ones that believe it is wrong to not honor the Sabbath, or to drink wine.

S1 *1Accept other believers who are **weak in faith**, and don't argue with them about what they think is right or wrong. 2For instance, one person believes it's all right to eat anything. But another believer with a **sensitive conscience** will eat only vegetables.*
Q: Who are the ones "weak in faith"?
A: Those that are weak in the faith are the ones that believe it is a sin to not honor the Sabbath, or to drink wine.

W3 *3Those who feel free to eat anything must not look down on those who don't. And those who don't eat certain foods **must not condemn** those who do, for **God has accepted them.** 4Who are you to condemn someone else's servants? Their own master will judge whether they stand or fall. And with the Lord's help, they will stand and receive his approval.*
Why can't we look down or condemn people that don't agree with us in such matters? Because, "***God has accepted them***". And if God accepted them, we should not have a higher standard of judgment than God.

*5In the same way, some think one day is more holy than another day, while others think every day is alike. You should each **be fully convinced** that whichever day you choose is acceptable.*

5 Conclusions
1. Some things (times, eating meat, drinking wine) are not inherently sinful.
2. Some things are sinful for some people because they violate your conscience.
3. Your conscience should be your second guiding factor. The word of God being the first
4. Your conscience can't make something that's inherently sinful permissible, but it can make things that are permissible sinful
5. All things should be done in love for the purpose of unity in the body of Christ.

Chapter XV. Confirm the Promises

1-7: Unity continues from Chapter 14

8: For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of God's truth, ***to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs****,*

What are these promises made to the patriarchs in the O.T.?

Odds of one man fulfilling only 8 of the 147 messianic prophecies: 10^17
100,000,000,000,000,000 (100 septillion) (100,000 * 1 million * 1 million)

1. Born in Bethlehem
2. Preceded by a messenger
3. Enters Jerusalem on a donkey
4. Betrayed by a friend
5. Sold for 30 pieces of silver
6. Money used to buy a field
7. Born of a virgin
8. Died for the sins of others

Let's focus on just 3 passages

Psalms 22: How - Death by crucifixion
Isaiah 53: Why - He was wounded for our transgressions
Daniel 9: When - Death must occur before the 2nd temple destroyed (70 AD)

Who: Messiah will be cut off (is 53)
What: a death by crucifixion
When: before 70 AD
Where: Jerusalem (enters on a donkey as King)
Why: for our sins (Is 53)

Why God gives us prophesy to confirm His word

Deut. 18:17 Then the LORD said to me, '.... 18 I will raise up a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites. I will put my words in his mouth, and ***he will tell the people everything I command him.*** *19 I will personally deal with anyone who will not listen to the messages the prophet proclaims on my behalf. 20 But any prophet who falsely claims to speak in my name or who speaks in the name of another god must die.'*
21 "But you may wonder, 'How will we know whether or not a prophecy is from the LORD?' 22 ***If the prophet speaks in the LORD's name but his prediction does not happen or come true, you will know that the LORD did not give that message****. That prophet has spoken without my authority and need not be feared.*

"It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future."— Yogi Berra

January 1st, 1990 Benny Hinn attempted [said] that God spoke to him and revealed the fate of Fidel Castro in Cuba. "*The Spirit tells me Fidel Castro will die in the '90s."*

TB Joshua "*This month 27th, (2021) it will be over. By the end of this month, whether we like it or not, no matter the medicine they might have produced to cure whatever, it will go the way it came."*

The book of Mormon predicted that their temple would be built in Independence, MO, but ended up in Salt Lake City. LDS predicted the day of 2nd coming so many times, they are now prohibited or making any more predictions.

Only the Bible has undeniable predictions of future events. Not a few, but hundreds. Many are about world empires and events, like the fall of Tyre, but also hundreds relating to the coming of the Messiah. This gives us one of the most powerful witnessing tools. If someone says, "What is to say the Bible is more true than the Quran?" or "What evidence is there for God?" The simple answer is … "How do you explain the hundreds of fulfilled prophesies in the Bible."

Psalms 22 – "My God …" is the Title

Romans

Luke 18:35 As Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting beside the road, ...

Mark 10:46 Next, they came to Jericho. And as Jesus and His disciples were leaving Jericho with ...

James Mitchner – the Source

Ernst Sellin late 1800's
… conducted excavations in Jericho and Shechem.
Sellin's description of the two places of Jericho, one being the old city mentioned in the Book of Joshua and other passages, and the other the new Roman city, allows a possible explanation of an alleged contradiction between the gospels of Mark and Luke, i.e. whether Jesus healed a blind man on the way to or after arriving in the city of Jericho (Luke 18:35 and Mark 10:46). As the two "Jerichos" were about a mile apart, one may understand that Jesus left Luke's Jericho and was arriving at Mark's Jericho when this took place.

2 Cities of Tyre – one the city where fishermen to this day spread out there nets on the rock to dry. The other a "new" city rebuilt

2 Bethlehems - like Rich taught us last week